

Herodotus, that such of the members of the Entomological Society as may have an opportunity will make experiments as to the efficacy of nets in excluding gnats from beds, noticing particularly whether the result be affected by the circumstance of the room being light or dark, or by the colour of the threads or the size of the meshes; and I trust also that such entomologists as may hereafter travel in Egypt will direct their attention both as to the exact species of gnats which may abound there, and as to the fact whether the fishermen still defend themselves from them in the mode pointed out by Herodotus.

III. *Descriptions of some hitherto uncharacterized exotic Coleoptera, chiefly from New Holland. By the Rev. F. W. HOPE, M.A., F.R.S., L.S., &c.*

[Read December 2, 1833.]

Order COLEOPTERA.

Family GYRINIDÆ?

ADELOTOPUS*, *Hope*. (Genus novum.)

Antennæ 11-articulatæ, articulo 1mo maximo, 2do minori rotundato, 3tio parvo, tenui, hoc et reliquis clavam elongato-ovalem, compressam efformantibus.

Caput breve in thoracem ad oculos immersum.

Labrum transversum, margine antico fere recto.

commentators in referring, in the following lines, to the passage of Herodotus in question, which he quotes:

“ See with delight the great relief appears,
 Known by the fame of twice a thousand years;
 See the close net of size immense and deep
 Flows round the bed and guards the dome of sleep.
 What though the gnats incessant wave their wings,
 Vain their efforts, and harmless are their stings.
 Soon as their swarms the adverse bound beset,
 Checked they retire, nor pass the impervious net.”

He here, like the commentators, regards the modern gnat-curtain as precisely identical with the *amphiblestron* of Herodotus, without giving himself the trouble to point out how his epithets ‘close’ and ‘impervious’ could be applicable to a casting-net.

* ἀδελος incertus, et τοπος locus.

Mandibulae validæ, corneæ, externe convexæ, apice subacutæ, interne dentibus binis obtusis armatæ.

Maxillæ lobo interno acuto, falciformi, ciliis rigidis interne armato; lobo externo palpiformi, 2-articulato.

Palpi maxillares breves, 4-articulati; articulis tribus prioribus æqualibus; ultimo ovato, truncato.

Mentum magnum, corneum, valde emarginatum; dente medio obtuso.

Palpi labiales 3-articulati, articulo 1mo minimo, 2do paullo majori, 3tioque maximo truncato.

Corpus parvum, oblongum, antice posticeque rotundatum.

Thorax conicus, antice abrupte truncatus, parte posticâ latitudinem elytrorum æquante; ad latera valde deflexus.

Prosternum acutum, inter pedes anticos protensum.

Pedes breves; femoribus ovato-dilatatis, tibiaram basin fossulâ recipientibus.

Tarsi simplices, 5-articulati, longitudine tibiae æquantes. *Ungues* recti.

Adelotopus Gyrinoides. Plate I. fig. 1.

Ater, nitidus; marginibus thoracis pedibusque piceis.

Long. corp. lin. $2\frac{1}{2}$, lat. lin. 1.

In museo Dom. Hope.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia.

Caput atrum. Thorax concolor, marginibus lateralibus parum reflexis piceis. Elytra marginata, abrupte truncata, sparsim punctulata; punctis, sub lente, parum distinctis. Corpus infra nigrum, nitidum; segmentis abdominis postice, pedibusque piceis.

This singular insect was sent to me from the Swan River settlement in New Holland. It seems to unite in itself the characters of several families. From the tarsi it is referrible to the *Pentamera*, whilst its general appearance and clavate antennæ place it among the *Necrophaga*. By the subcontractile legs, (for the bent tibiæ are not entirely concealed within the femora,) it is allied to *Byrrhida*, but the leading character afforded by the maxillæ evinces a near affinity with the *Entomophaga*, amongst which the *Gyrinidæ* must be considered the nearest in proximity, *Gyrinus bicolor*, Fab., somewhat approaching this insect in form.

Family BYRRHIDÆ.

MICROCHÆTES*, Hope. (Genus novum.)

Antennæ 11-articulatæ, clavatæ, articulo 1mo magno, 2do paullo mi-

* μικρος parvus, et χαιτη capillus.

nore, quinque proximis longitudine decrescentibus, 8vo paullo latiori cyathiformi, binis proximis lunulatis, ultimo maximo conico ovato.

Labrum breve, transversum, antice ciliatum.

Mandibula trigonæ apice 3-dentatæ, sinu interno infra dentes membranaceo.

Maxilla lobis binis valde ciliatis, interno breviori.

Palpi maxillares 4-articulati, 1mo brevi, 2do duplo longiori, 3tio brevi, ultimo elongato ovato.

Mentum transversum antice vix emarginatum.

Labium membranaceum, basi dilatatum, apice rotundatum.

Palpi labiales 3-articulati, breves, articulo ultimo binis præcedentibus conjunctim æquali.

Corpus orbiculare, setulis obsitum.

Pedes breves, compressi, contractiles; femoribus dilatatis, posticis solummodo versus basin dente obtuso externe armatis.

This insect approaches in its antennæ and setose body to the genus *Nosodendron*, but the oral structure is more nearly allied to that of *Byrrhus*. The 3 basal joints of the tarsi are strongly ciliated, while the 4th is naked, and seems almost incorporated with the 5th joint. The tubercles on the thorax and elytra are formed of short rigid hairs.

Microchates sphericus. Plate I. fig. 2.

Totum corpus supra nigrum, fusco tomentosum; pedibus piceis.

Long. corp. lin. 2, lat. lin. $1\frac{1}{2}$.

In museo Dom. Hope.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia apud Swan River.

Clypeus rotundatus, subtiliter punctulatus. Thorax 4 tuberculis notatus, medio dorsi fere positus. Elytra tuberculis horrentia, tuberculis triplici serie dispositis. Corpus subtus concolor.

Family ELATERIDÆ.

MACROMALOCERA*, *Westwood MSS.* (Genus novum.)

Antennæ corpore paullo longiores, compressæ, 12-articulatæ, articulo 1mo crasso, binis proximis minutis æqualibus fere rotundatis, 3tio autem supra basin articuli sequentis extenso, reliquis longitudine æqualibus, depressis, apice singuli interne acute paullo producto, ultimo apice subconico.

Mandibulæ falcatæ, apice acutæ, basi excavatæ.

* μακρος longus, ἑμάλος planus, et κρηας cornu.

Labrum sublunulatum.

Maxillæ parvæ, subquadratæ, externe longe pilosæ, lobo unico apicali fere trigono tomentos.

Palpi maxillares 4-articulati, breves, articulo 1mo minimo, reliquis æqualibus, apice latioribus, ultimo autem subtrigono truncato.

Palpi labiales in scapos duos inserti, 3-articulati, articulis fere æqualibus rotundatis, apicali autem paullo majori.

Mentum transverso-quadratum, antice medio parum producto.

Labium parvum, subrotundatum.

Prosternum acutum, in foveola mesosterni receptum.

Pedes longissimi, tarsi que tibiis longiores.

Macromalocera Ceramboides, Hope. Plate I. fig. 3.

Flava, elytris concoloribus lineato-punctatis.

Long. corp. lin. 11, lat. lin. 2.

In museo Dom. Hope.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia.

Antennæ compressæ. Caput foveolâ inter oculos impressâ. Thorax marginatus, subconvexus, angulis posticis paullo elongatis, antice posticeque capillis aurantiis obsitus. Scutellum atrum. Elytra lineato-punctata, pubescentia. Corpus infra concolor, tarsis subtus auricomatis.

Macromalocera cænosa, Hope.

Præcedenti affinis. Corpus supra infraque fuscum; antennis, sutura, marginibusque elytrorum flavescentibus.

Long. lin. 11, lat. lin. 2.

In museo Dom. Hope.

Habitat cum præcedenti.

This insect, as well as the former species, was sent to England by Captain Roe from the vicinity of the Swan River. None of the *Elateridæ* approach them in the length of the antennæ, from which I have chiefly drawn the generic characters; and I think it is not improbable that *Buprestidæ*, somewhat approaching this genus, will eventually be found in the same wonderful country.

Family TENEBRIONIDÆ.

SCOTÆUS*, Hope. (Genus novum.)

Antennæ subpectinatae, ante oculos sub margine capitis insertæ, 11-articulatæ, articulo 1mo crasso, 2do brevi minimo, 3tio binis an-

* σκοταίος tenebricosus.

terioribus fere æquanti, septem proximis trigonis, apicibus acute productis, ultimo paullo minore.

Maxillæ lobo externo magno, inermi, ciliato, interno parvo.

Palpi maxillares 4-articulati, articulo 1mo parvo, 2do duplo longiori, 3tio parvo fere cyathiformi, ultimo securiformi maximo.

Prosternum inter pedes anteriores acute productum et in carinam mesosterni receptum.

Metasternum inter pedes intermedios obtuse productum.

Caput fere quadratum, angulis anticis acutis rotundatis.

Labrum transversum, antrorsum pilosum.

Oculi reniformes, septo antice subdiviso.

Pedes mediocres. *Tarsi* articulo ultimo valde clongato.

Scoteus Corallipes. Plate I. fig. 4.

Niger, antennis subpectinatis, femoribus tibiisque rubro-corallinis tarsisque atris.

Long. corp. lin. 9, lat. lin. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$.

In musco Dom. Hope.

Habitat in Java.

Labrum antice pilosum. Caput punctatum, oculis aureo-micantibus. Thorax convexus, punctis numerosis irregulariter sparsis, fossulâ mediâ parum distinctâ, medio dorsi ad scutellum decurrente. Elytra nigra, lineato-punctata. Corpus infra atrum nitidum, femoribus tibiisque rubro-corallinis, tarsisque nigris infra pubescentibus. Antennæ nigræ.

Family CURCULIONIDÆ.

LOPHOTUS, *Schönherr.*

Loph. nodipennis, Hope. Plate I. fig. 5.

Ater, rostro canaliculato postice niveo, elytris unituberculatis, maculâque albidâ inter tuberculas et apicem positâ.

Long. corp. lin. 10, lat. lin. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

In musco Dom. Hope.

Habitat apud Conception Americæ Meridionalis.

Caput nigrum, rostro brevi in medio canaliculato, postice capillis albidis obsito. Inter oculos spinæ duæ atræ serie setarum constructæ. Thorax cylindricus, antice constrictus, subtilissime punctatus. Elytra striato-punctata, postice spinâ elevatâ acutâ utrinque armata. Macula alba fere trigona utrinque inter spinas et apicem elytrorum extensa. Corpus infra nigrum, maculis argentatis notatum. Pedes nigri, femoribus incrassatis posticeque albo marginatis.

This singularly formed insect was brought by Mr. H. Cuming

from Conception: it belongs to the genus *Lophotus*, Schonherr, to whom I sent it, with another new species, named by me *L. trifasciatus*, also from Valparaiso. In the second volume of Schonherr's work, one species only is given, viz. *L. Eschscholtzii*. The *Curculio Vitulus*, Fab., however, must be considered as the type of the genus, which consequently comprises four distinct species.

Family PRIONIDÆ.

PRIONUS, *Fabricius*.

Prionus pilosicollis. Plate II. fig. 1.

Piceus; thorace bidentato, dentibus postice arcuatis, piloso; antennis pedibusque rubro-piceis.

Long. corp. lin. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, lat. lin. 6.

In museo Dom. Hope.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia apud Swan River.

Antennæ compressæ, rubro-piceæ, fere longitudine corporis. Caput punctulatum, antice densius pubescens. Thorax capillis elongatis auratis obsitus, utrinque postice dente acuto, retrorsum arcuato armatus. Elytra serie irregulari punctorum excavatorum insculpta. Corpus infra aureo-pilosum. Pedes rubro-picei; tibiis externe spinosis, anticis arcuatis.

Family LAMIIDÆ.

DECARTHRIA*, *Hope*. (Genus novum.)

Antennæ corpore longiores, 10-articulatæ, articulo 1mo crasso, 2do minimo, reliquis longitudine æqualibus, ultimo apice acuto.

Caput supra breve, facie transverso-quadratâ, oculisque quatuor insignitâ, binis supra basin antennarum positis, binisque majoribus lateralibus.

Labrum semirobundatum, ciliatum.

Mandibulæ subfalcatæ, acutæ, basi incisurâ notatæ.

Palpi maxillares 4-articulati, articulo 1mo minimo, 2do præcedenti duplo longiori, 3tio fere trigono, ultimo elongato conico acuto, tribus primis longitudine æquali.

Maxillæ lobis duobus elongatis apice ciliatis.

Mentum breve, transversum.

Labium productum, basi angustatum, apice ciliatum.

Pulpi labiales 3-articulati, articulo 1mo minimo, binis sequentibus fere æqualibus, ultimo apice conico.

Decarthria Stephensii, Guilding's MSS. Plate II. fig. 2.

Pallide testacea, antennis variegatis elytrisque nigro maculatis.

* δεκα δεκα, ἀρθρον articulus.

Long. corp. lin. $\frac{3}{4}$, lat. lin. $\frac{1}{4}$.

In museo Dom. Hope.

Habitat in Insula Sancti Vincentii Indiæ Occidentalis.

Antennæ corpore longiores, testaceæ; articulis (secundo excepto) apice nigricantibus. Caput flavum. Thorax margine anteriori flavo, disco postice fuscanti. Elytra testacea, basi punctata, humeris medio prominentibus, nigro maculata, macula obscura media magna quadrata, 2da apicali 3tiaque intermedia minori. Corpus infra fusco-testaceum, tibiis anticis emarginatis, intermediis unispinosis.

This is the smallest Capricorn insect that has come under my notice. It appears closely allied to the genus *Mesosa* of Megerle, from which I have separated it, as the antennæ have only ten articulations, whereas the latter has eleven. It was captured in the Island of St. Vincent's by the Rev. Lansdown Guilding, and named in honour of J. Francis Stephens, Esq. The eyes are similar to those of the genus *Tetraopes*; and the incrassated legs, with regard to the size of the insect, are remarkable.

STENODERUS, Dejean.

Stenoderus Roei. Plate II. fig. 3.

Niger; thorace antice constricto, elytris rubris, antennis in medio penicillatis.

Long. corp. lin. 10, lat. lin. 2.

In museo Dom. Hope.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia apud Swan River.

Caput porrectum, nigrum, inter oculos canaliculatum. Mandibulæ atræ, acutæ. Antennæ nigrae, articulo basilari longo, apiceque crassiori, tertio fasciculo pilorum ornato. Thorax antice angustatus, constrictus, utrinque subspinosus, supra tuberculatus. Scutellum atrum, postice rotundatum. Elytra rubra, elevato-quadrilineata. Corpus subtus nigrum, nitidum; pedibus concoloribus.

The following species belong to the genus *Stenoderus*, viz.

1. *Stenoderus suturalis*, Oliv. East Indies.
2. ————— { *abbreviatus*, Fab. *Cerambyx*, Syst. Eleuth. 2. 275.
 { *ceramboides*, Kirby.
3. ————— *concolor*, M'L.
4. ————— *Roei*, Hope.

I have named this last species in honour of Lieut. Roe, R.N., whose arduous services in surveying the coasts of Australia will be more properly appreciated as that country becomes better known.

5. *Stenoderus pulcher*.

Flavus; antennis nigris, elytrisq[ue] postice cyaneis.

Long. lin. $6\frac{1}{2}$, lat. lin. 2.

In museo Dom. Hope.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia.

Caput porrectum, supra et subtus flavum. Antennæ nigrae. Thorax obscure flavus. Scutellum concolor, postice rotundatum. Elytra basi aurantia, apice cœrulea, nitida, elevato-quadrilineata. Corpus infra cyaneum, nitidum; femoribus quatuor anticis flavis; tibiis tarsisque nigris; pedibus posticis concoloribus.

I perfectly agree with Mr. Kirby that this genus recedes from the *Lepturidæ*: it belongs undoubtedly to the *Cerambycidae*, and appears to have some affinity with the South American *Rhinotragus* of Dalman and *Cosmius* of Klug; it agrees with both in regard to the produced head, and with the latter in having the antennæ sometimes penicillated.

TRAGOCERUS, *Dejean*.*Tragocerus Spencii*. Plate II. fig. 4.

Aurantius; thorace nigro elytrisq[ue] nigro-bifasciatis.

Long. lin. 16, lat. lin. $4\frac{2}{3}$.

In museo Dom. Hope.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia.

Caput antice rufo-piceum, medio pilis flavescentibus ornatum, foveolatum, posticeq[ue] atrum. Antennæ setacæ, elytris breviores, rufo-piceæ. Thorax ater, nitidus, subvillosus, ad latera pilis flavescentibus indutus, marginibusq[ue] lateralibus in medio subunidentatis. Scutellum atrum. Elytra abdomine longiora, apice angustiora, dehiscentia, truncato-subemarginata; suturâ lineisque quatuor in utroq[ue] elevatis longitudinalibus, quarum exterior vix distincta, binæ sequentes æquales e humeris ad apicem extensæ quartaq[ue] interna e latere scutelli decurrens et paullo ante apicem terminata. Elytra parum nitida, fasciâ mediâ nigrâ deflexâ, secundâ posticâ latiori. Thorax subtus et pectus atra, cinereo-pubescentia. Abdomen antice posticeq[ue] rufo-piceum, segmentis tribus internis nigris nitidis. Segmenta basi utrinque albo-maculata, ultimo solummodo excepto rufo.

I have considered this very beautiful insect as not unworthy to bear the name of our distinguished countryman and Honorary Member, William Spence, Esq., F.R.S. &c., whose labours, in conjunction with those of our Honorary President, have tended to give

to our favourite science the greatly increased degree of general attention with which it is now regarded.

I propose dividing *Tragocerus* into two sections, viz.

α. *Elytris apice bidentatis*.

β. *Elytris apice rotundatis*.

These characters, however, it is to be observed, may hereafter be ascertained to be sexual instead of sectional.

To the former section belong,

1. *bidentatus*, Don.
2. *Spencii*, Hope.
3. *flavicomus*, Hope. (Sp. nov.)
4. *Lepidopterus*, Schreibers.

To the latter belong,

5. *fasciatus*, Don.
6. *sulphurifer*, Hope.

PACHYLOCERUS*, *Hope*. (Genus novum.)

Antennæ crassæ, elytris breviores, 11-articulatæ, articulo 1mo maximo, 2do minimo, tribus sequentibus fere rotundatis, quinque proximis subtrigonis apice interno productis subpubescentibus, ultimo fere ovali, apice subarticulato.

Caput quadratum, angulis posticis rotundatis, antice canaliculatum, lineis binis elevatis, clypeo excavato, posticeque foveâ inter oculos et antennas fortiter impressâ.

Labrum parvum, transversum, antice subemarginatum.

Mandibulæ breves, interne dentatæ.

Palpi maxillares breves, articulis tribus primis æqualibus, ultimo magno, conico, apice truncato.

Palpi labiales articulis duobus basalibus æqualibus, tertio magno conico, apice truncato.

Mentum breve transversum.

Thorax antice posticeque constrictus, transverse rugosus.

Prosternum inter pedes anticos paullo productum.

Pachylocerus corallinus. Plate II. fig. 5.

Rubro-corallinus; thorace rugoso nigro-maculato, elytris rubris vittisque nigris variegatis.

Long. lin. 13, lat. lin. 3¼.

In museo Dom. Smee.

Habitat in India Orientali.

Antennæ rubro-ferrugineæ, articulo 2do nigro, duobus proximis

* *παχυλος* crassus, *κερας* cornu.

apice nigricantibus, reliquis colore pallidiori saturatis. Thorax ruber, rugosus, antice et postice lineâ nigrâ elevatâ marginatus, dorso maculis binis atris oblongis notatus. Scutellum nigrum. Elytra rubra, saturâ, marginibus lateralibus, e medio disci ad apicem nigricantibus, vittisque duabus nigris notata, vitta interna basi interruptâ. Corpus subtus atrum, thorace rubro, abdomine nigricante. Pedes rubro-corallinæ femoribus apice nigris, geniculisque concoloribus.

This singular insect inhabits the vicinity of Omlecope Dawar in the East Indies, and was captured on a prickly thorn by Captain Smee, from whose cabinet it is described. *Cerambyx crassicornis*, Olivier, is the only species allied to it, the locality of which is not given by that author; I have little hesitation, however, in asserting it to be an Indian species.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES.

Note.—The line placed near some of the insects indicates their natural length.

PLATE I.

- Fig. 1. *Adelotopus Gyrinoides*, magnified. 1 a. The under side of the insect. 1 b. The under side of the head. 1 c. Labrum. 1 d. Mandible. 1 e. Maxilla. 1 f. Labium. 1 g. Antenna. 1 h. The same, seen sideways. 1 i. Prothorax and fore legs, seen from the front. 1 k. The intermediate legs. 1 l. The hind pair of legs.
- Fig. 2. *Microchaetes sphericus*, magnified. 2 a. Labrum. 2 b b. Mandibles. 2 c. Lower parts of the mouth. 2 d. Antenna. 2 e. Fore leg. 2 f. Ditto, folded up. 2 g. Hind leg.
- Fig. 3. *Macromalocera Ceramboides*, natural size. 3 a. Under side of the front of the body. 3 b. Front of head. 3 c. Maxilla. 3 d. Labrum and its parts. 3 e. Extremity of tarsus and ungues.
- Fig. 4. *Scotæus corallipes*, natural size. 4 a. Under side of the pro- and mesothorax. 4 b. Maxilla. 4 c. Antenna.
- Fig. 5. *Lophotus nodipennis*, natural size. 5 a. The head, seen sideways.

PLATE II.

- Fig. 1. *Prionus pilosicollis*, natural size. 1 a. Under side of the front of the head.
- Fig. 2. *Decarthia Stephensii*, magnified. 2 a. Head, seen from the front. 2 b. Ditto, sideways. 2 c. Labrum. 2 d. Mandible. 2 e. Maxilla. 2 f. Labium and its parts. 2 g. The insect, of the natural size.
- Fig. 3. *Stenoderus Roei*, natural size. 3 a. Front of head. 3 b. Under side of ditto.
- Fig. 4. *Tragocerus Spencii*, natural size. 4 a. Front of head, from above. 4 b. Ditto, from beneath, showing the parts of the mouth. 4 c. Maxilla.
- Fig. 5. *Pachylocerus corallinus*, natural size. 5 a. Front of head. 5 b. Under side of ditto. 5 c. Prosternum.